Applicant: Kenneth W. Whitley Application No.: 10/666,157 Filing Date: September 19, 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A stackable roller bottle for cell growth culturing comprising: an elongate cylindrical wall having a closed bottom end and an opposed projecting neck portion end defining a liquid opening, said closed bottom end including an inwardly directed recessed portion for accommodating a cap mounted onto a neck portion end of an adjacent stacked similar container, said recessed portion including a planar surface having at least one rib extending therefrom for defining a space between said cap neck portion of said adjacent stacked similar container and said planar surface, said recessed portion further including a side wall extending from said planar surface away from said neck portion end, wherein said side wall being configured to define a gap between said side wall and said cap of said adjacent stacked similar container, said gap being in communication with said space.
- 2. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said space permits gases to enter into and out of a liquid opening of said adjacent stacked similar container.
- 3. (Canceled).
- 4. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said rib is integral with said planar surface.
- 5. (Canceled).

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- 6. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1 5, wherein said rib radiates in a direction from a point proximal to the longitudinal axis of the container toward said side wall of said recessed portion where said rib terminates.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 1 6, wherein a plurality of said ribs is provided, and said ribs are about equally spaced about the longitudinal axis of the container.
- 8. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said recessed portion is generally frustoconical in shape.
- 9. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein said neck includes integral external screw threads for receiving an internally screw threaded cap thereon.
- 10. (Original) A roller bottle assembly comprising: the container of claim 9; and an internally screw threaded cap, said cap having a top surface and an annular outer skirt extending from said top surface to a bottom stop ledge.
- 11. (Original) The assembly of claim 10, wherein said cap further includes a central orifice extending through said top surface; and a gas permeable membrane which is affixed to an interior side of said top surface to close said orifice.
- 12. (Canceled).
- 13. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 10 12, wherein said rib radiates in a direction from a point proximal to the longitudinal axis of the container toward said side wall of said recessed portion where said ribs terminate.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 10 13, wherein a plurality of said ribs is provided, and said ribs are about equally spaced about the longitudinal axis of the container.

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15. (Withdrawn) A method of stacking containers for cell growth culturing comprising: providing a first container having a closed bottom end and an opposed projecting neck portion end defining a liquid opening, said closed bottom end including an inwardly directed recessed portion, said recessed portion including a planar surface having at least one rib extending therefrom;

providing a second container; and

stacking said first container and said second container with said neck portion of said second container being nested in said recessed portion of said first container, wherein said rib spaces said neck portion of said second container from said planar surface of said first container.

- 16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said first and said second containers are stackable roller bottles.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said rib is integral with said planar surface.
- 18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said recessed portion further includes a side wall.
- 19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein said rib radiates from a point proximal to the longitudinal axis of the container toward said side wall of said recessed portion where said rib terminates.
- 20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein a plurality of said ribs is provided, and said ribs are about equally spaced about the longitudinal axis of the container.